**A Non-Login Shell Session**

[*Non-login shell*](gloss01.html#gloss_271) sessions are typically the root user using the **su** command to temporarily become another user or a sysadmin using **su** to become the root user without loading the entire environment of the root or other user. Non-login shells are also started when you open new terminals from within a graphical session.

**Note**

The **su** command creates a non-login shell. If you need a login shell, place a dash after the **su** command, for example, **su - sean**.

When a user executes a non-login session, the only file sourced is the target account’s **~/.bashrc** file. (On Red Hat machines, the first action in the **~/.bashrc**is to source the **/etc/bashrc** file if it exists. Other distributions have different files that they run.)

Upon exiting that shell, no logout files or scripts are sourced, nor are the source account’s scripts run again.